

10/573108  
IAP20 Rec'd TOWTO 23 MAR 2006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AS  
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE

Applicants:	Ashton, et al.	
Int. Appln. No:	PCT/US2004/036252	
Int. Filing Date:	29 October 2004	
US Appln. No.:	To Be Assigned	Case No.: 21562P
Filed:	Concurrently Herewith	
For:	FUSED PHENYLALANINE DERIVATIVES AS DIPEPTIDYL PEPTIDASE-IV INHIBITORS FOR THE TREATMENT OR PREVENTION OF DIABETES	

Art Unit:

Examiner:

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE  
DATE OF DEPOSIT MARCH 23, 2006  
EXPRESS MAIL NO. E1 989584906 US  
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS  
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL  
SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL "POST OFFICE TO ADDRESS" <sup>ET</sup>  
ON THE ABOVE DATE IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450,  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450  
MAILED BY Kathy K. Lutz  
DATE 3-23-06

Sir:

The above-identified case is a PCT application entering the US National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1)(a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application. Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Please amend this application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** are reflected on page 2 of this response.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected on page 3 of this response. **Remarks** begin on page 14 of this response.